REMARKS

The issues outstanding in the Office Action mailed June 29, 2007, are the objection to the claims, and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, §102 and §103. Reconsideration of the above issues, in view of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

At the outset, the examiner is thanked for indicating the withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, and the subsequent examination of all claims, for the notation that the Information Disclosure Statement has been reviewed, and moreover, for indicating the allowability of claims 6-8, 10, 13 and 14.

Objection to the Claims

Claim 4 has been cancelled, as being redundant. Thus, this objection is moot, and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

The examiner is thanked for noting the typographical and grammatical errors at pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action. Appropriate clarifying amendments have been made. These amendments do not change the scope of the claims. Withdrawal of these rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103

The Office Action indicates that claim 6-8, 10 and 13-14 are allowable. Claim 1 has been amended in order to incorporate the features of claim 6, and claims 8, 10, 13 and 14 have been placed in independent form. Thus, it is submitted that all the claims of the application are now in condition for allowance and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at the number below.

No fees, other than the 1-Month Extension of Time and the fee for 2 additional independent claims, both paid herewith, is believed to be due with this Amendment.

However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-3016

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